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Assembly California Legislature



MICHAEL D. DUVALL
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
TRANSPORTATION, VICE CHAIR
INSURANCE
BUDGET
JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE #2 -
EDUCATION FINANCE

June 13, 2007

Dr. Robert F. Sawyer
Chairman, California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Dr. Sawyer:

The State of California has an historic opportunity to implement change and stem the potentially adverse environmental impacts of day to day activities.

As part of the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 implementation process, the Air Resources Board is currently considering opportunities for early action that will both demonstrate the seriousness of the State's commitment, and achieve real carbon reductions.

We applaud your efforts to date and encourage you to continue advancing measures that will yield cost effective, technologically feasible emissions reductions. However, we must caution that these rules must not impose undue economic burden on lower and fixed income citizens. In particular, we are concerned about one of the early action items that would propose to ban the retail sales of automotive air conditioning refrigerant.

Currently, consumers who cannot afford professional service may purchase this refrigerant at a fraction of the cost—around 5%—of the service. If this product is banned, many low-income communities may be forced to go without air conditioning in their cars, which poses a distinct hardship given California's significant summertime temperatures.

Moreover, technology to produce a more environmentally-friendly replacement refrigerant will not be widely available until after the Air Resources Board's (ARB)

6/19/07 ORIGINAL:

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proposed deadline for the phase-out of January 1, 2010. Fortunately, both Dupont and Honeywell are currently in research and development on this, and the product is set to be available for use in new vehicles by 2011. However, the technology to incorporate the new replacement refrigerant into existing vehicular air conditioning systems will not be market-ready for some time later. The reality of this timeline significantly impacts the effect the ARB's proposed ban will have, as the majority of cars on the road are older models.

Given these circumstances, we urge you to seriously consider possible regulatory alternatives that will yield similar reductions, but have less impact on the health and safety of our most vulnerable citizens. The industry has proposed a number of compromise solutions that could do much to move our state towards addressing this issue in a substantive and immediate fashion.

Thank you for all of your efforts toward making California a better place to live, work and play.

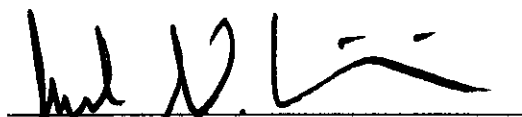
Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



MIKE DUVALL
Assemblyman, 72nd District



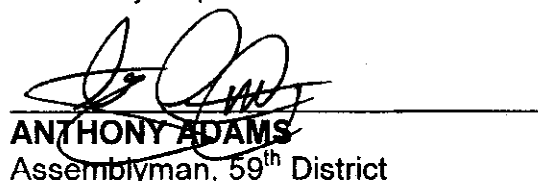
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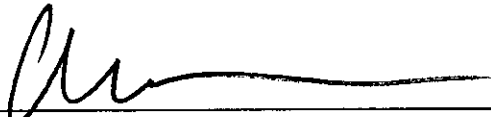
Assemblyman, 66th District



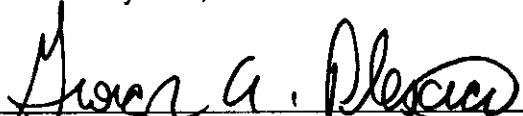
BILL MAZE

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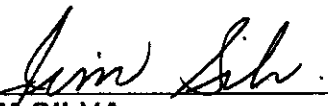
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Chair, California Air Resources Board
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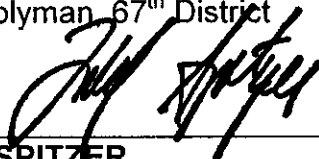
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Assemblyman, 10th District



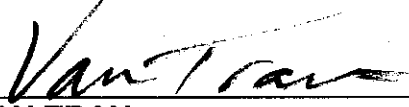
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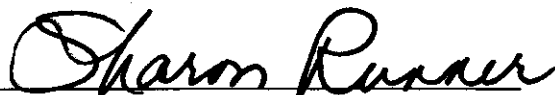
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